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Patent Application
Serial No. 10/057,184

REMARKS

Applicant has amended the claims to obtain allowance of the allowable material pointed out by the Examiner.

Claims 12-14 have been cancelled and their substance incorporated into Claim 1. Claim dependencies have been corrected so all remaining claims between Claim 1 and Claim 16 either depend directly or indirectly from amended Claim 1. Therefore all of those claims should now be allowable. Claim 17 has been redrafted as an independent claim incorporating the substance of original Claim 1.

Similarly, Claims 28-30 have been cancelled and their substance incorporated into base Claim 18. Claim dependencies have been corrected so all remaining claims between Claim 18 and Claim 32 either depend directly or indirectly from amended Claim 18. Claim 33 has been redrafted as an independent claim incorporating the substance of original Claim 18. Therefore all of those claims should now be allowable.

Claims 40-42 have been cancelled and their substance incorporated into base Claim 34. Claim dependencies have been corrected so all remaining claims between Claim 34 and Claim 39 either depend directly or indirectly from amended Claim 34. Therefore all of those claims should now be allowable. Claim 43 has been redrafted as an independent claim incorporating the substance of original Claim 34. New Claim 44 has been added. This claim contains the same limitation as Claim 16 and was accidentally omitted from the application. Its lack was pointed out by one of the inventors.

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In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

If for any reason the Examiner has any questions or still finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number listed below to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. You are hereby authorized to charge any fees due and refund any surplus fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-2567.

Respectfully submitted,

REED SMITH LLP

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